



## Western Library System Helping libraries serve our communities.

January/February 2019

**Happy New Year!!!**

### WLS Happenings 2019, by *Jan Jolliffe*

Our "Reading Snowman Tree" was a hit during the Legacy of the Plains' Trees Along the Trails decorating contest and nonprofit/service club organization fair. We had a total of 119 "likes" for the handmade ornaments which were made on the various Library Innovation Studio machines in the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library. Peggie Michael, Library Assistant, made each of the laser-cut discs which we fashioned onto clear ornaments to represent each of our system's 40 public libraries. We made reading and book related fabric ornaments using the heat press machine, and added cardboard snowflakes precisely cut on the laser machine. In addition, we had laser-cut snowflakes and snowmen on acrylic. What a fantastic way to show off the uses of the Innovation Studio. Remember, there is one [Final Public Library Application](#) upcoming to host an **Innovation Studio** in your library: **March 29, 2019.**



"Reading Snowman Tree"



Assorted Handmade Ornaments, made by the Lied Scottsbluff Innovation Studio



"Stormin' Norman": WLS's new mascot, is ready to tackle a little self-improvement for the New Year! Happy 2019!!!



***"Creativity is intelligence having fun."***  
*Albert Einstein*

#### In This Issue:

- ♦ WLS Happenings 2019, by Jan Jolliffe
- ♦ Mark Your Calendar, NCompass Live and Basic Skills
- ♦ News You Can Use
- ♦ Happenings Around the System



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 Jeri Clapper  
 Administrative Assistant  
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## Mark Your Calendar

### WLS Board Meeting

Railway Office Plaza, Conference Room, 10:00 a.m.

**January 8, 2019**

The Deadline for Proposals for Speakers for **Big Talk From Small Libraries 2019** is fast approaching: Please [submit your proposal](#) by **Friday, January 18, 2019**

Call for Proposals: NLA/NSLA/ILA 2019 Joint Conference  
The call for proposals closes on **February 8, 2019** (See page 6)

SRP "A Universe of Stories" workshops, January 25th in McCook: <https://goo.gl/forms/LucegM89JoVQgeYD3>; March 8th in Alliance: <https://goo.gl/EDLC9M>. (See page 7)

**Open House**, Lied Imperial Public Library, celebrating their new Sparks Grant - **January 18, 2019** (see page 4)

Public Library Survey deadline - **February 15, 2019**

**Big Talk From Small Libraries 2019** will be held on **Friday, February 22, 2019** between 8:45 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (CT)



**Final Public Library Application** to host an **Innovation Studio** in your library: **March 29, 2019**



## Upcoming NCompass Live

Upcoming NCompass Live events:

- January 9 - [Graphic Novel Collection and Programming](#)
- January 16 - [2019 One Book One Nebraska: 'This Blessed Earth'](#)
- February 6 - [You Make Me Want To Break Out](#)
- February 20 - [Crafting Relevant Community Partnerships Using Archives](#)
- February 27 - [Future Ready Nebraska and the Digital Learning and Ed Tech Plan](#)
- March 20 - [Reading Diversely](#)

**NCompass Live** is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am Mountain Time.

For more information, to register for NCompass Live, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/>

## Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians 2019 Schedule

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
2/11 - 2/22	<a href="#">Customer Service*</a>	Christa Porter	1/14 - 2/1
3/4 - 3/15	<a href="#">Library Governance</a>	Denise Harders	2/4 - 2/22
3/18 - 3/29	<a href="#">Library Technology</a>	Holly Woldt	2/18 - 3/1
4/1 - 4/30	<a href="#">Introduction to Cataloging*</a>	Holli Duggan	3/4 - 3/22
4/22 - 5/3	<a href="#">Readers Advisory</a>	Sharon Osenga	3/25 - 4/12
5/13 - 5/24	<a href="#">Intellectual Freedom / Core Values*</a>	Sally Snyder	4/15 - 5/3
6/10 - 6/21	<a href="#">Library Finance</a>	Scott Childers	5/13 - 5/31

(\* Requisite class)

Register on the Nebraska Library Commission [Training and Events Calendar](#).

[Description of Basic Skills courses](#)

[Basic Skills Planner](#)--for program participants to keep track of their progress

Visit the Nebraska Library Commission Website for News and Announcements.





## Open House at LIED IMPERIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us as we celebrate the opening of our new

### **Homework Hotspot & 100 Mbps Internet Connection**

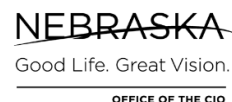
Tour our facility and learn about this exciting new partnership between the Chase County School District and the library.

**Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**3:00 pm – 5:30 pm**  
**703 Broadway, Imperial, NE**

Join in the fun from 3:00 – 3:30. You will be a part of an interactive virtual field trip originating from Homestead National Monument of America in Beatrice, NE. Learn firsthand what a school day in Nebraska was like in 1872

Guests and a park ranger will explore “A School Day in 1872” in this lesson, comparing and contrasting education on the frontier with education today.

Please RSVP by January 15<sup>th</sup>  
308-882-4754 or [youbelong@imperiallibrary.org](mailto:youbelong@imperiallibrary.org)



“This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services [LG-99-18-0018-18].”



## Friday Reads: (Another) Year in Review



The Nebraska Library Commission is looking back at all the great books we've reviewed in 2018!

In our weekly blog series [Friday Reads](#), a staff member at the Nebraska Library Commission posts a review of a book every Friday. Spanning all genres, from short stories to celebrity memoirs, young adult to crime fiction, we've shared what we've read and why we've read it.

Former NLC staffer Laura Johnson created this series to model the idea of talking about books and to help readers get to know our staff a little better. Readers advisory and book-talking are valuable skills for librarians to develop, but they are ones that take practice. We hope that our book reviews will start a conversation about books among our readers and encourage others to share their own reviews and recommendations.

The series has been going strong for 4 1/2 years and has produced over 200 reviews, which are archived on the [NCompass blog](#), or you can browse a list of reviews [here](#).



Posted on [December 31, 2018](#) by [Aimee Owen](#)

## Highlights from the Commission Website: Discounts on Books & Supplies

Various library vendors offer Nebraska libraries discounts on books and supplies via the Nebraska Library Commission. You can see a list of these vendors on the [Discounts on Books & Supplies](#) page of the Nebraska Library Commission website.

While some of these discounts are ongoing, others are offered for specific terms that are renewable. We are pleased to report that the following vendors have recently renewed their discount terms through at least the end of 2019:

- Brodart
- Demco
- Ingram Library Services, Inc.
- Midwest Library Service
- The Library Store
- Vernon Library Supplies



Please see the [Discounts on Books & Supplies](#) page for a complete list of participating vendors, and also to see the discount terms and the steps required to obtain the discounts.

Information provided by Susan Knisely, NLC

<http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nlcblog/author/sknisely/>



## Bridging Borders

**Succeeding Together**



ILA/NLA/NSLA Joint Conference 2019

Next year's fall conference is going to be exciting, as we are partnering with the Iowa Library Association (ILA) and the Nebraska School Librarians Association (NSLA), to hold the conference October 2-4, 2019, at the La Vista Conference Center in La Vista, Nebraska.

**The call for proposals is now LIVE, and the deadline is February 8, 2019.** [Click here](#) to access the submission forms.

**Session Selection:** Session proposals and ideas will be reviewed and selected by the Conference Committee, with

the intention of selecting sessions that are diverse and representative of the membership's needs.

**Resources:** Here are a few great resources to consider as you prepare your proposal:

[Presenter Best Practices](#)

[Primer on Learning Outcomes](#)

The 2019 joint conference website is being hosted on the ILA website, so please bookmark this page for future reference: <https://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/conference>

Beyond the session proposal forms, the website also has more information on dates and location, keynote speakers, and the conference theme. More details will be unveiled in the coming months, so keep an eye on the conference website, your email inboxes, and the NLA newsletter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Angela Kroeger at [angelajkroeger@gmail.com](mailto:angelajkroeger@gmail.com).



# News You Can Use: Two Summer Reading Program Workshops

## A UNIVERSE OF STORIES

Date: January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Location: McCook City Library  
802 Norris Avenue  
McCook, NE 69001

Time: 9:30am – 3:30pm (Central time)

CEU's Earned: 4.5

Register here: <https://goo.gl/forms/LucegM89JoVQgeYD3>

(Registration Deadline: January 18<sup>th</sup>)

\$10 Registration fee may be sent to (or payable at the door on the day of the workshop):

Central Plains Library System  
2727 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite #233  
Hastings, NE 68901

In case of inclement weather, please contact CPLS office to see if the workshop has been rescheduled (800-569-4961 or 402-705-1409).

Date: March 8, 2019  
Location: Alliance Public Library  
1750 Sweetwater Avenue  
Alliance, NE 69301

Time: 9:30am – 3:30pm (Mountain time)

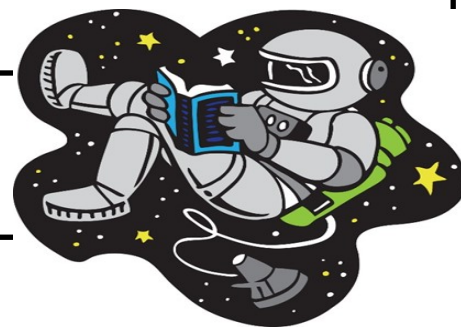
CEU's Earned: 4.5

Register here: <https://goo.gl/EDLC9M>  
(Registration deadline: March 1st)

\$10 Registration fee may be sent to (or payable at the door on the day of the workshop):

Western Library System  
115 Railway Street  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

In case of inclement weather, please contact WLS office to see if the workshop has been rescheduled (800-879-5303 or 308-632-1350).



### AGENDA

9:30-10am	Registration & Mingle
10-11:30am	Book Review by Sally Snyder, NLC
11:30-12:15pm	CPLS & WLS Presents.....
12:15-1:30pm	LUNCH & Sharing Time (lunch is included in your registration fee)
1:30-3:30pm	Activities & Crafts with Jody Crocker

This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

## For the Maker in You

The maker movement has seen some amazing things in recent past. But what exactly does it take to become successful as a budding maker? There are many answers to this question, but one overarching theme across the board is this: learn from failure. Failure is a fact of life. It can lead to growth. It can lead to finding a new passion.



As libraries set up more and more maker stations, start teaching failure in your training classes. If a patron walks in and gets frustrated because they didn't succeed right away, encourage them to keep trying. Remind them that Rome wasn't built in a day. True artistry takes years of practice.

If somebody experimented with a new design on a new machine that didn't turn out quite the way they wanted, take a look at it. Find where they went right and provide constructive criticism on where they went wrong.

For those librarians with new and unfamiliar technology, encourage the patron to take a second look at their own work. Ask them what they see now that they didn't see when they first made the design. Ask the patron what they would do to change the design to improve it. Get them thinking. Wait for them to have that "eureka!" moment.

As librarians, there are lots of things we can do to empower our patrons to try new and different things. One of the most powerful things we can do is encourage failure.

Posted on December 11, 2018 by Amanda Sweet

## **Big Talk From Small Libraries** - Small libraries doing big things!



We've been listening! A comment we've heard often is that many presentations at conferences seem to be by and for librarians from larger libraries. Well, *Big Talk From Small Libraries* is different.

This free one-day online conference is aimed at librarians from small libraries; the smaller the better! Each of our speakers is from a library serving fewer than 10,000 people, or directly works with small libraries.

Topics range from technology to programming to new roles for the library. This event is a great opportunity to learn about the innovative things your colleagues are doing in their small libraries.

Everyone is welcome to register and attend, regardless of how big or small your library. But, if your library serves a few hundred to a few thousand people, this is the day for you!

*Big Talk From Small Libraries* is broadcast online using the GoToWebinar online meeting service. GoToWebinar works on Windows, Mac, Google Chrome OS, Linux, iOS and Android devices. GoToWebinar login instructions are e-mailed to registered attendees the day before the conference. Please see the [NLC Online Sessions webpage](#) for detailed information about GoToWebinar, including system requirements and firewall configuration.

We will be recording all of the sessions and posting them to the [Previous Conferences](#) page as soon as possible after the event. You do not need to register for the conference to access the recordings.

This conference is organized and hosted by Christa Porter of the [Nebraska Library Commission](#) and is co-sponsored by the [Association for Rural & Small Libraries](#).

*Big Talk From Small Libraries* was inspired by the [Iowa Small Libraries Online Conference](#), and our event wouldn't exist without their advice and encouragement.



**Big Talk From Small Libraries, February 22, 2019  
8:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Central Time**

Information accessed 1/7/29 on <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/>

# Western Library System Scholarship Application

The Western Library System established a scholarship fund to facilitate the professional development of librarians within the system. Librarians, Media Specialists, and those connected with member agencies within the System may use these monies for attendance at professional meetings, classes, workshops, or other beneficial academic activities. Upon approval, funds will be dispersed after the Western Library System Board's next bi-monthly meeting.

Provisions of the Scholarship include:

1. Each applicant must submit an application letter and form any time prior to or two weeks after the event for which the scholarship is intended.
2. The Scholarship Committee will review each application received.
3. The Scholarship Committee has the right to adjust the amount requested depending on the budget and the number of applications received during the fiscal year, with a maximum request of \$200.00.
4. Scholarships evaluated on a first-come, first-serve basis.
5. Priority given to events within the state.
6. Individual applicants are limited to requesting scholarships once in a two-year period.
7. Scholarship recipients will provide a brief article in the System Newsletter as a form of resource sharing within one month of completion of the activity. Submit articles to the WLS office.

Scholarship Committee Western Library System 115 Railway Street Scottsbluff, NE 69361

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Western Library System Scholarship Application

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Library/School/Agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone and Email: Click or tap here to enter text.

Event Date: Click or tap here to enter text.

Requested Amount: Click or tap here to enter text.

Please describe the activity, why you want to attend this activity, and how it will contribute to your professional growth.

(Please attach a separate typed sheet if necessary)

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date Click or tap here to enter text.

Return completed form to the WLS Scholarship Committee c/o Western Library System Mail: Western Library System, 115 Railway Street, Scottsbluff, NE 69361 Email: [wlsasst@gmail.com](mailto:wlsasst@gmail.com), Fax: 308-632-3978

## School Library Journal's Best Books

The review editors for School Library Journal have considered the starred books of the year and selected 80 titles in seven categories as the very best of 2018. They considered literary excellence, timeliness, timelessness, the collection development needs of librarians, and the appeal to young readers.

The categories are Picture Books; Chapter Books; Middle Grade; Nonfiction; YA; Poetry; and Graphic Novels. You can see a slide show which includes each title and download the complete list by going to

<https://www.slj.com/?page=best-books-2018>.







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Nebraska  
Library Commission



Final Public Library Application Deadline: **March 29, 2019**



## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Nebraska Library Commission along with partners University of Nebraska - Lincoln, Nebraska Innovation Studio, Nebraska Extension, and Regional Library Systems, are excited about the Library Innovation Studios: Transforming Rural Communities project, which was awarded a National Leadership Grant of \$530,732 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The project began July 1, 2017 and will conclude June 30, 2020.

The project uses Library Innovation Studios (Makerspaces) hosted by public libraries to support community engagement and participatory learning experiences by providing access to technological and innovative learning tools not readily accessible locally. This strengthening of the maker culture in Nebraska communities is expected to stimulate creativity, innovation, and the exchange of ideas to facilitate entrepreneurship, skills development, and local economic development.

### THE MULTI-FACETED PROJECT WILL:

- Establish local Community Action Teams in thirty rural and small communities (communities with a population less than 25,000);
- Purchase equipment and related materials for four rotating Innovation Studios that will be hosted by libraries for approximately 20 weeks each;
- Develop instructional materials and user equipment certification processes;
- Employ sustainability strategies for permanent studios;
- Provide training on the use of the equipment, focusing on Train-the-Trainer strategies;
- Assist with local marketing efforts and programming/events, including open houses and maker showcases; and Host annual inventors' showcases in Lincoln.

### THESE THREE GOALS GUIDE THE PROJECT:

- Rural community residents will be empowered with the tools and guidance to explore, collaborate, create, learn, and invent;
- Libraries will transform their rural communities through participatory learning spaces, while establishing themselves as strong community catalysts for community change; and

Libraries (and communities) nationwide will have access to a replicable model.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

[JoAnn McManus](#), Library Innovation Studios Project Manager, Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023, 402-471-4870, 800-307-2665

### Additional Info

[Project Summary](#)

[Logic Model](#)

[Library Participation Benefits and Expectations with Answers to Questions](#)

[Application of Interest & Commitment \(Word\)](#)

[Recorded Webinars](#)

[Training Videos](#)

[Equipment / Components](#)

[Equipment Instructions](#)

[Space Needs Chart](#)

[Communications](#)

[Community Engagement](#)



Nebraska  
Library  
Commission

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services [grant #LG-95-17-0046-17].

# Santa Visited Broadwater PL

Article and photos by Cheryl Hamilton, Director/Librarian

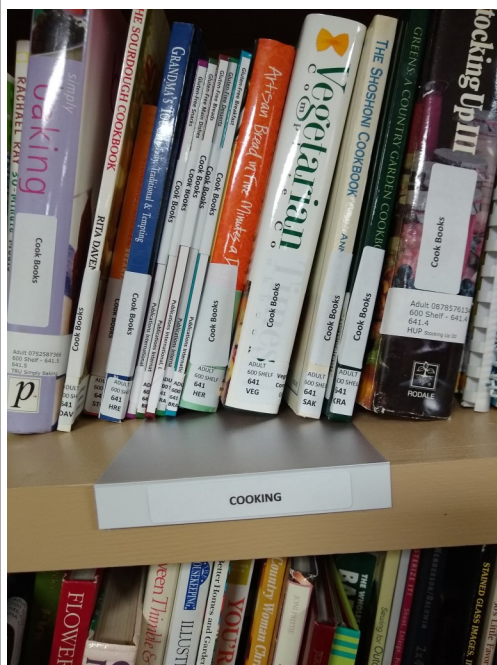
Broadwater Public Library hosted Santa on Saturday, December 8th. Children were invited to have their picture taken with Santa, then enjoy special treats and chose a toy to take home. Five children and their families attend this special event.





# Happenings Around The System

## Broadwater Library Converts to BISAC



After watching the webinar: **NCompass Live: Ditching Dewey: How we converted from Dewey to BISAC and lived to tell about it**, I decided to try BISAC in our Adult Non-fiction section. We had already converted our children's nonfiction to categories last fall. This made it easier to help the students in our monthly After School Club find reading selections in their areas of interest. We had been struggling to help our adult patrons find books in their interest areas. The sorting, weeding and re-shelving took about sixteen hours. The BISAC categories given as additional information in the webinar did not cover all our collection. We did have to make up some special categories cover our more unique book groups. We are still in the re-labeling stage.

This is not an easy project and not recommended if you already have a well-organized Dewey labeled system. However, we are finding that this choice does fit our library.

The webinar can be found in the archived area of NCompass live. If you have questions for me, feel free to e-mail me at [broadwaterpl@gmail.com](mailto:broadwaterpl@gmail.com)

Article and photo submitted by Cheryl Hamilton,  
Broadwater PL, Director/Librarian

## Congratulations to Bayard Public Library!

One of our fantastic libraries in the Western Library System has attained Accreditation, for the first time ever, in 2018. Bayard Public Library received Silver Level Accreditation. Congratulations to the Library Boards, **Director Becky Henkel**, and staff members who worked so hard for this well-deserved recognition!



## 2019 at Kimball Public Library

### Kimball Public Library Received a Youth Grant for Excellence Award!!!

Kimball Public Library has recently received the Youth Grant for Excellence. Amber Sweetland, Assistant Director/Children's Librarian, will create kits for checkout and in-library use. The STEAM educational tools will be used for our after school programs.

### Kimball Public Library Prepares to be the next Innovation Studio Hosts

**February 22—July 8**

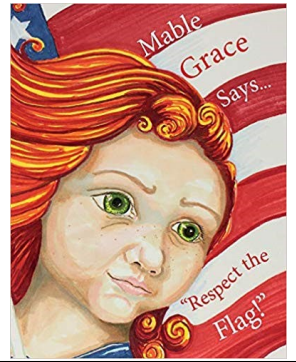


## Happenings Around the System

### Mitchell Public Library Hosts Open House/Book Signing with Local Author & Illustrator, Camille Takuski & Melissa Nelson:

#### *Mable Grace Says... "Respect the Flag!"*

A combination open house/book signing was held December 8th, for the second book in the Mable Grace series for children. Camille Takuski and Melissa Nelson are both Mitchell residents. Approximately 26 people joined the celebration to meet the author, purchase copies, and enjoy homemade Christmas cookies and punch!



[https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/51xUryFFPIL\\_SX387\\_BO1,204,203,200\\_.jpg](https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/51xUryFFPIL_SX387_BO1,204,203,200_.jpg)



Article provided by Maryruth Reed, Mitchell Public Library, Director;  
local pictures provided by Priscilla Plasencio, Circulation Assistant.

### The Grant County Library in Hyannis held their annual Holiday Open House and Library Foundation Book Sale on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

There was a great turnout with over 50 attending. This is an appreciation to our patrons for their continued support of the library. We always have plenty of treats for them to snack on while they browse the books that are on sale. We also have two guessing games for them to participate in. The first is a guess of how many candies in a jar. The closest guess wins the jar. The second one is a guess of how many books we have on the sale. The closest guess wins a poinsettia.

This year we had 1,048 books and tapes available for purchase. We also sold a few items and craft supplies from our storage room that we no longer use.



Article and photos provided by Jennifer Holthus,  
Grant County Library Assistant

# Makey Makey



[Makey Makey](#) The Western Library System has an Invention Kit for beginners and experts for art, engineering, and many other projects for budding innovators. Check this out for your library today! If you have any questions, please contact the WLS office.



Contact the WLS office:

[wlsasst@gmail.com](mailto:wlsasst@gmail.com)

## Cover One Book Repair



The Western Library System has a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. Take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements. Go to <http://www.coverone.net/>

Bring your books into the WLS office to make your own repairs! Call the WLS office for an appointment: 308-632-1350, Toll-Free 888-879-5303.

## Disc Cleaning and Repair!



The Western Library System has the RTI ECO-SMART Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won't play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.

From July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

## WLS Board of Directors:

Maryruth Reed, President Kathy Terrell, Vice President

Jill Hurtt, Secretary

Allison Roberts

Tammy Howitt-Covalt

Jan Sears

Allison Reisig

Rossella Tesch

Vickie Retzlaff

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